



K.S.K COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows.

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PROBLEM STATEMENT:

In large organizations, managing users, groups, and roles manually often leads to security risks, access conflicts, and inefficient workflows. Without a structured access control mechanism, ensuring data privacy and task accountability becomes challenging.

There is a strong need for an automated and secure system that can handle user, group, and role management efficiently while integrating approval workflows and access controls.

OBJECTIVE:

To develop a *ServiceNow-based system* that simplifies and automates *user, group, and role management* with *role-based access control (RBAC)* and *workflow automation*, ensuring proper authorization, efficient task assignment, and secure data handling.

SKILLS:

- * ServiceNow Application Development
- * User, Group, and Role Management
- * Access Control Lists (ACL) Configuration
- * Flow Designer & Workflow Automation
- * Business Rules and Client Scripts
- * Testing, Debugging, and Documentation

TASK INITIATION:

The project *“Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows”* was initiated to create a *secure and automated environment* for managing user permissions and workflows.

The main idea was to reduce manual access management by integrating *automatic role assignment, **group-based access, and **workflow approvals* through ServiceNow.

Key goals were defined as:

- * Strengthen data security using ACLs
- * Streamline the workflow for user requests
- * Minimize admin overhead through automation

FEATURES:

- * **User Management:** Create and manage user records with unique roles and credentials.
- * **Group Management:** Organize users into functional teams or departments.
- * **Role-Based Access Control:** Assign and restrict access based on specific roles.
- * **Automated Workflows:** Enable request and approval flows for new access or updates.
- * **Notification System:** Trigger automated email updates when access or status changes.
- * **Data Security:** Implement ACLs to protect sensitive information.
- * **Efficiency Tracking:** Monitor and analyze workflow performance and user access requests.

Modules Implemented :

1. User Creation:

Created multiple user profiles representing employees, managers, and administrators.

Each user has predefined credentials and mapped roles.

2. Group Creation:

Configured different groups (e.g., HR Team, IT Support, Admins) to organize users and enable collective access permissions.

3. Role Management:

Defined custom roles (e.g., approver, admin, requester) to control module-level access and restrict unauthorized actions.

4. Table Creation:

Developed custom tables to store user and access data.

Fields include User ID, Group Name, Role Type, Status, and Approval Stage.

5. Role & User Assignment:

Assigned roles to users and groups, ensuring that each individual's access matched their organizational responsibility.

6. Table Role Assignment:

Controlled permissions at the table level so that only specific roles could read, write, or modify records.

7. Access Control List (ACL):

Configured ACLs to protect records based on conditions, roles, and scripts.

This ensures only authorized users can view or update sensitive data.

8. Workflow & Outputs:

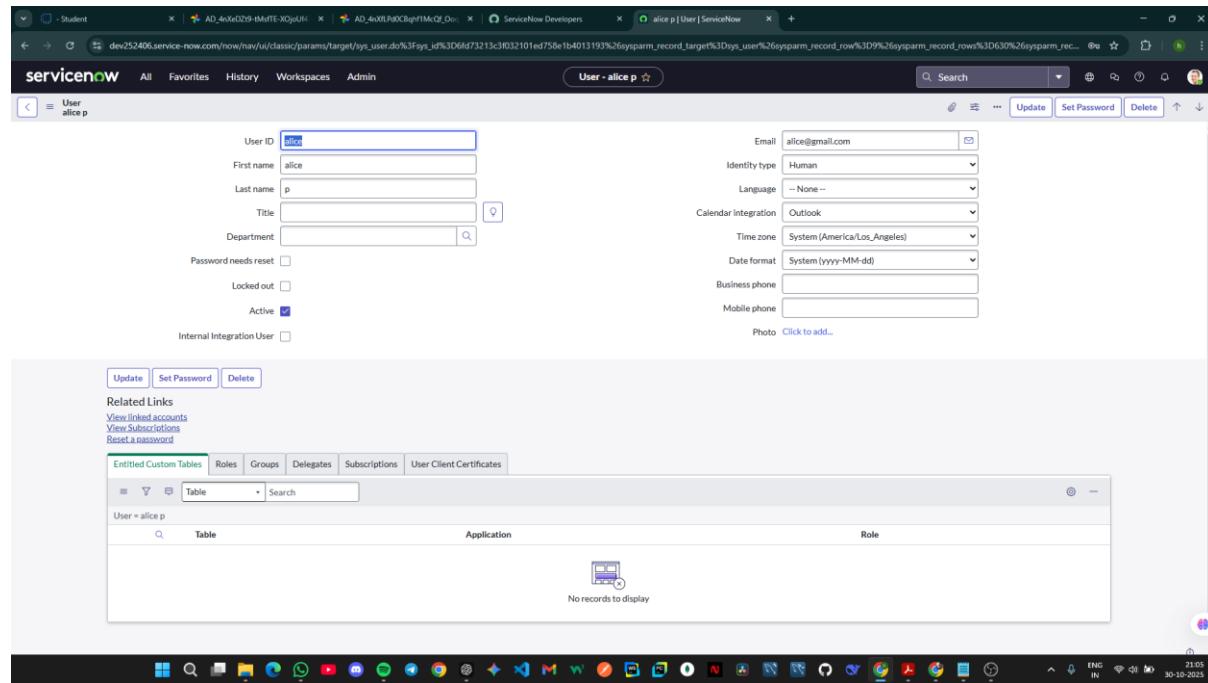
Designed approval workflows through Flow Designer.

When a new user requests access or role update:

- * Request is automatically routed to the manager..
- * Upon approval, the user is assigned the role.
- * Notifications and task updates are triggered automatically.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS:

STEP 1: CREATE USERS



Servicenow - Student

User - Bob p

User ID	bob	Email	bob@gmail.com
First name	Bob	Identity type	Human
Last name	p	Language	-- None --
Title		Calendar integration	Outlook
Department		Time zone	System (America/Los_Angeles)
Password needs reset	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date format	System (yyyy-MM-dd)
Locked out	<input type="checkbox"/>	Business phone	
Active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mobile phone	
Internal Integration User	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photo	Click to add...

Related Links

- [View linked accounts](#)
- [View Subscriptions](#)
- [Reset a password](#)

Entitled Custom Tables	Roles	Groups	Delegates	Subscriptions	User Client Certificates

User - Bob p

Table	Application	Role
		No records to display

Update | Set Password | Delete

STEP 2: CREATE GROUPS

Servicenow - Student

Group - project team

Name	project team	Group email	
Manager		Parent	
Description			

Update | Delete

Roles	Group Members	Groups

Group - project team

Created	Role	Granted by	Inherits
			No records to display

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow 'Roles' screen. A new role named 'project member' has been created. The 'Name' field contains 'project member'. The 'Application' dropdown is set to 'Global'. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Contains' section is currently empty, showing a message 'No records to display'. The browser address bar shows a complex URL related to the role creation.

STEP 3: CREATE ROLES

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow 'Role' details screen for 'u_project_table_user'. The 'Name' field is 'u_project_table_user'. The 'Application' dropdown is set to 'Global'. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Contains' section shows one record: 'project tables' (Table: project_table [u_project_table], Active: true). The browser address bar shows a URL for the specific role record.

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow Role configuration page. The role name is 'u_task_table_user'. It is set to 'Global' application and has 'Elevated privilege' checked. The 'Description' field is empty. In the 'Related Links' section, the 'Modules with Role [1]' tab is selected, showing a single entry for 'task table [u_task_table]' which is active and linked to the 'task table' application menu. The status is updated on 2025-11-01 04:27:23.

STEP 4: CREATE TABLES

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow Application Menu configuration page for 'project table'. The title is 'project table'. The 'Active' checkbox is checked. The 'Roles' dropdown is set to 'project member'. The 'Category' is 'Custom Applications'. The 'Hint' and 'Description' fields are empty. In the 'Related Links' section, the 'Modules' tab is selected, showing a single entry for 'project table [u_project_table]' which is active and linked to the 'u_project_table_user' application menu. The status is updated on 2025-11-01 04:32:52.

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow application menu configuration for a 'task table' module. The main form includes fields for Title (set to 'task table'), Application (Global), Active status (checked), and Roles (set to 'u_task_table_user, project member, team member'). It also specifies a menu category of 'Custom Applications'. Below the form is a table listing the configuration details.

Module	Order	Search	Actions on selected rows...	New
Application menu = task table				
task table [u_task_table]	true	List of Records	u_task_table_user	2025-11-01 04:27:23

STEP 5: ASSIGN ROLES & USERS TO GROUPS

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow user profile configuration for a user named 'alice p'. The main form includes fields for First name (alice), Last name (p), Title, Department, Password needs reset (unchecked), Locked out (unchecked), Active status (checked), and Internal Integration User (unchecked). On the right side, there are dropdowns for Identity type (Human), Language (None), Calendar integration (Outlook), Time zone (System (America/Los_Angeles)), Date format (System (yyyy-MM-dd)), Business phone, and Mobile phone. Below the form is a table showing assigned roles.

Role	State	Inherited	Inheritance Count
u_task_table_user	Active	false	
u_project_table_user	Active	false	
project member	Active	false	

User ID: bob

First name: bob

Last name: p

Title:

Department:

Password:

Email:

Identity type: Human

Language: None

Calendar integration: Outlook

Time zone: System (America/Los_Angeles)

Date format: System (yyyy-MM-dd)

Business phone:

Mobile phone:

Photo: Click to add...

Update | Set Password | Delete

Related Links

- View linked accounts
- View Subscriptions
- Reset a password

Entitled Custom Tables Roles (2) Groups (1) Delegates Subscriptions User Client Certificates

Role	State	Inherited	Inheritance Count
u_task_table_user	Active	false	
team member	Active	false	

STEP 6: ASSIGN ROLES TO TABLE

* Title: project table

Application: Global

Active:

Roles: project member

Category: Custom Applications

Hint:

Description:

Update | Delete

Modules Order + Search

Q	Title	Table	Active	Filter	Order	Link type	Device type	Roles	Updated
	project table	[u_project_table]	true			List of Records		u_project_table_user	2025-11-01 04:32:52

The screenshot shows the 'Application Menu - task table' configuration page in ServiceNow. The title is 'task table'. The 'Title' field is set to 'Task table'. The 'Category' is 'Custom Applications'. The 'Hint' and 'Description' fields are empty. The 'Active' checkbox is checked. The 'Roles' dropdown is set to 'u_task_table_user, project member, team member'. The 'Application' dropdown is set to 'Global'. The 'Update' and 'Delete' buttons are visible at the top right.

An application menu is a group of modules in the application navigator. Choose the roles that are required to access the application and add or remove modules in the related list below. [More info](#)

* Title Task table

Application Global

Active

Restricts access to the specified roles. Otherwise, all users can view the application menu when it is active.

Roles u_task_table_user, project member, team member

Specifies the [menu category](#), which defines the navigation menu style. The default value is Custom Applications.

Category Custom Applications

The text that appears in a tooltip when a user points to this application menu

Hint

Description

Update Delete

Modules Order Search Actions on selected rows... New

Title	Table	Active	Filter	Order	Link type	Device type	Roles	Updated
task table	task table [u_task_table]	true			List of Records		u_task_table_user	2025-11-01 04:27:23

1 to 1 of 1

STEP 7: CREATE ACL

The screenshot shows the 'Access Controls' configuration page for the 'u_task_table_u_assigned_to' record. The 'Type' is 'record' and the 'Operation' is 'write'. The 'Decision Type' is 'Allow if'. The 'Admin overrides' checkbox is checked. The 'Protection policy' is 'None'. The 'Name' is 'u_task_table_u_assigned_to'. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Applies To' section is empty. The 'Conditions' section includes a 'Requires role' condition for 'team member'. The 'Security Attribute Condition' and 'Data Condition' sections are empty.

Type record

Operation write

Decision Type Allow if

Admin overrides

Protection policy None

Name u_task_table_u_assigned_to

Description

Applies To (empty)

Conditions

Requires role

Role team member

Security Attribute Condition

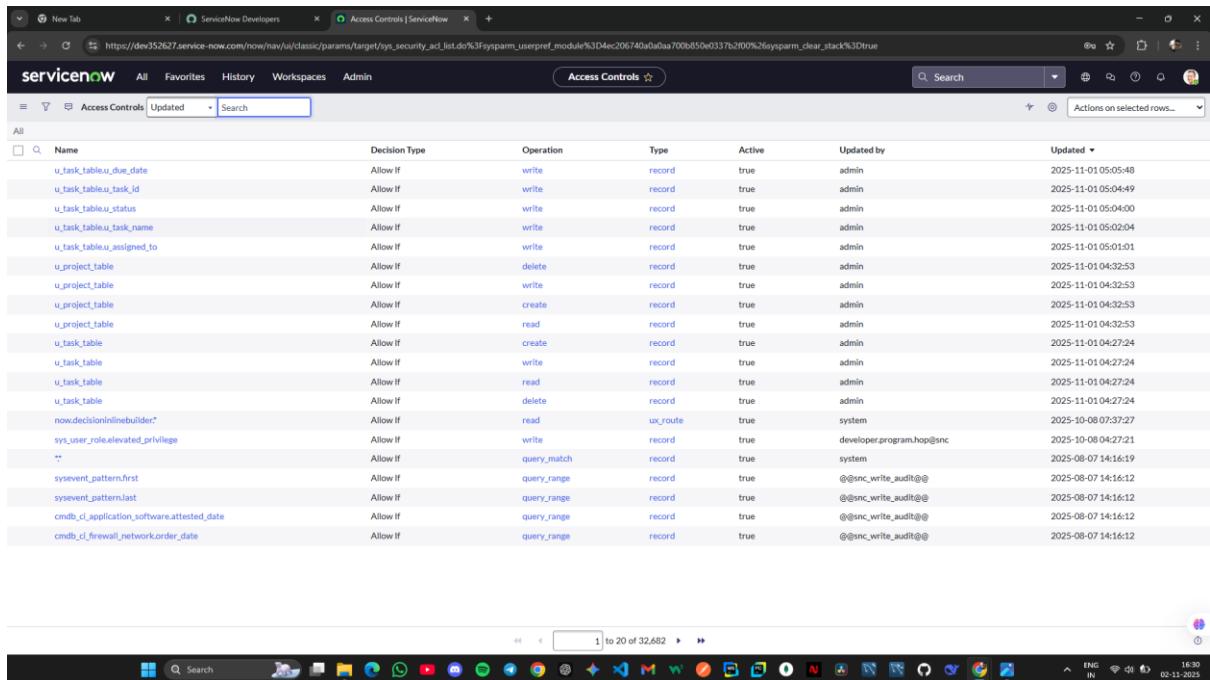
Local or Existing Local

Security Attribute

Condition (empty)

Data Condition

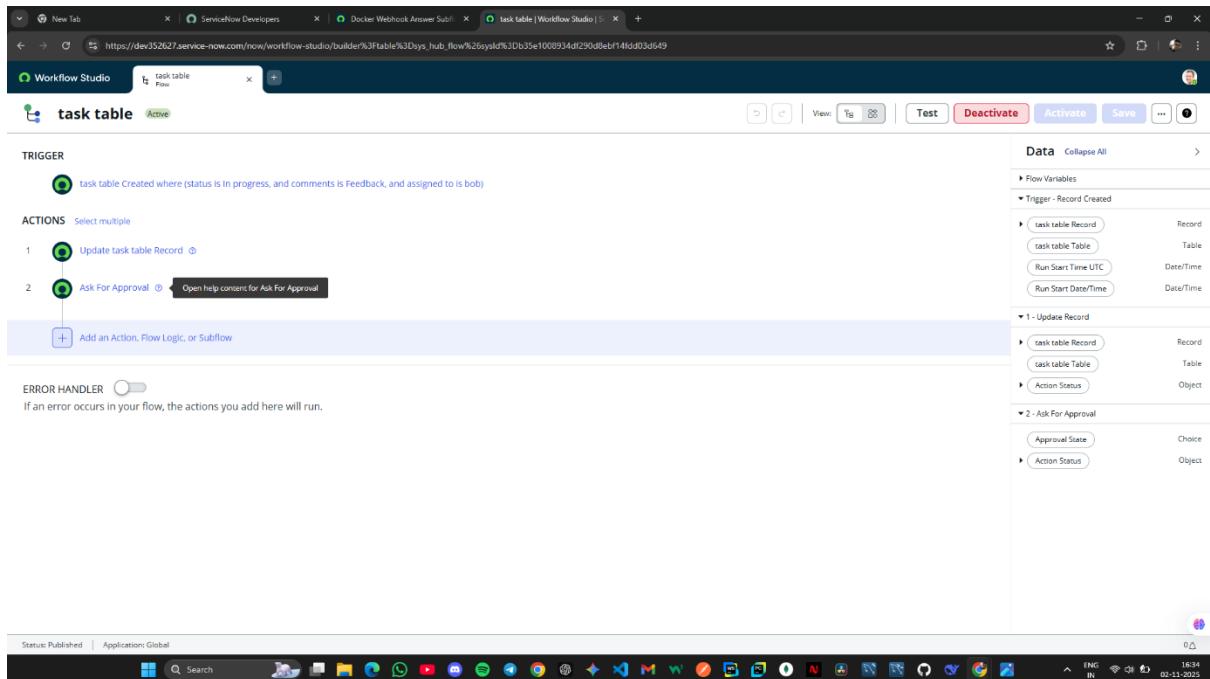
Condition (empty)



Access Controls

All	Name	Decision Type	Operation	Type	Active	Updated by	Updated
	u_task_table.u_due_date	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 05:05:48
	u_task_table.u_task_id	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 05:04:49
	u_task_table.u_status	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 05:04:00
	u_task_table.u_task_name	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 05:02:04
	u_task_table.u_assigned_to	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 05:01:01
	u_project_table	Allow If	delete	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:32:53
	u_project_table	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:32:53
	u_project_table	Allow If	create	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:32:53
	u_task_table	Allow If	read	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:32:53
	u_task_table	Allow If	create	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:27:24
	u_task_table	Allow If	write	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:27:24
	u_task_table	Allow If	read	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:27:24
	u_task_table	Allow If	delete	record	true	admin	2025-11-01 04:27:24
	now.decision:inlinebuilder:"	Allow If	read	ux_route	true	system	2025-10-08 07:37:27
	sys_user_role.elevated_privilege	Allow If	write	record	true	developer.program.hop@snc	2025-10-08 04:27:21
	**	Allow If	query_match	record	true	system	2025-08-07 14:16:19
	sysevent_pattern.first	Allow If	query_range	record	true	@@snc_write_audit@@	2025-08-07 14:16:12
	sysevent_pattern.last	Allow If	query_range	record	true	@@snc_write_audit@@	2025-08-07 14:16:12
	cmdb_ci_application_software.attested_date	Allow If	query_range	record	true	@@snc_write_audit@@	2025-08-07 14:16:12
	cmdb_ci_firewall.networkorder_date	Allow If	query_range	record	true	@@snc_write_audit@@	2025-08-07 14:16:12

STEP 8: FLOW & OUTPUTS



Workflow Studio

task table

task table | Workflow Studio

New Tab ServiceNow Developers Docker Webhook Answer Subl task table | Workflow Studio

https://dev35627.service-now.com/now/workflow-studio/builder%3Ftable%3Dsys_hub_flow%26sysld%3Db35e1008934d290d8ef14fd05d649

Workflow Studio

task table

task table

View Test Deactivate Activate Save ...

TRIGGER

task table Created where (status is in progress, and comments is Feedback, and assigned to is bob)

Trigger Created

* Table task table [u_task_table]

Condition All of these conditions must be met

status is In progress
comments is Feedback
assigned to is bob

AND OR AND OR AND OR AND

New Criteria Advanced Options

Delete Cancel Done

ACTIONS Select multiple

1 Update task table Record

2 Ask For Approval

Add an Action, Flow Logic, or Subflow

Data Collapse All

Flow Variable

Trigger - Record Created

task table Record

task table Table

Run Start Time UTC

Run Start Date/Time

Date/Time

1 - Update Record

task table Record

task table Table

Action Status

Record

Table

Object

2 - Ask For Approval

Approval State

Action Status

Choice

Object

The screenshot shows the ServiceNow Workflow Studio interface with a flow titled "task table".

TRIGGER: task table Created where (status is in progress, and comments is Feedback, and assigned to is bob)

ACTIONS:

1. Update task table Record:
 - Action: Update Record
 - * Record: Trigger - Rec... → task table Rec...
 - * Table: task table [u_task_table]
 - * Fields: status → completed
2. Ask For Approval

ERROR HANDLER: If an error occurs in your flow, the actions you add here will run.

On the right side, there is a sidebar with the following sections:

- Data (Collapse All)
 - Flow Variables
 - Trigger - Record Created
 - task table Record
 - task table Table
 - Run Start Time UTC
 - Run Start Date/Time
 - Update Record
 - task table Record
 - task table Table
 - Action Status
 - Ask For Approval
 - Approval State
 - Action Status

Screenshot of ServiceNow Workflow Studio showing a trigger for a task table.

TRIGGER: task table Created where (status is In progress, and comments is Feedback, and assigned to is bob)

ACTIONS:

1. Update task table Record
2. Ask For Approval

Action: Ask For Approval

- * Record: task table Record
- Table: task table [u_task_table]
- Approval Field: status
- Journal Field: Select a field
- Rules:
 - Approve When: All users approve
- Due Date: None

Data:

- Flow Variables
- Trigger - Record Created
 - task table Record
 - task table Table
 - Run Start Time UTC
 - Run Start Date/Time
- 1 - Update Record
 - task table Record
 - task table Table
 - Action Status
- 2 - Ask For Approval
 - Approval State
 - Action Status

Buttons: Delete, Cancel, Done

Screenshot of ServiceNow Approvals screen showing a list of approvals.

Filter: Approver Name >= alice p

State	Approver	Comments	Approval for	Created
Approved	Bernard Laboy	alice p	(empty)	2025-08-06 06:19:43
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000053	2025-08-06 06:09:38
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000071	2025-08-06 06:12:10
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000037	2025-08-06 06:04:51
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000076	2025-08-06 06:13:15
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000094	2025-08-06 06:15:21
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000051	2025-08-06 06:09:31
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000073	2025-08-06 06:12:19
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000090	2025-08-06 06:15:07
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000074	2025-08-06 06:12:23
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000055	2025-08-06 06:09:47
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000078	2025-08-06 06:13:24
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000091	2025-08-06 06:15:11
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000045	2025-08-06 06:07:48
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000081	2025-08-06 06:13:34
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000052	2025-08-06 06:09:35
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000049	2025-08-06 06:08:06
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000047	2025-08-06 06:07:57
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000065	2025-08-06 06:11:39
Requested	Bernard Laboy		CHG0000084	2025-08-06 06:13:49

Actions: Actions on selected rows...

Outcome :

The system successfully automates *user and role management* within ServiceNow.

It enhances *security, **reduces administrative workload*, and ensures that every user has appropriate access.

The workflow-based automation:

- * Reduces manual intervention
- * Improves data security
- * Provides clear audit trails
- * Increases organizational efficiency

Conclusion:

The project *“Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows”* demonstrates how automation and access control can greatly improve IT service management.

By leveraging *ServiceNow’s automation tools, ACLs, and workflows*, the project ensures:

- * Streamlined access management
- * Enhanced data protection
- * Reduced operational effort
- * Consistent workflow execution

This implementation highlights the power of combining *security with automation* for modern enterprise management systems.

